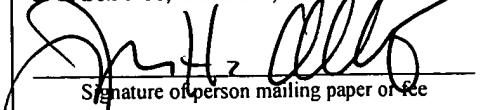


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:  Before the Examiner  
 )  
Stephen N. Hammond et al.  Not Yet Assigned  
 )  
Serial No. New Application  Group Art Unit  
 )  
Filed: January 27, 2004  Not Yet Assigned  
 )  
METHOD FOR CARBURIZING  Our Ref. 6001-1001  
STEEL COMPONENTS  )

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

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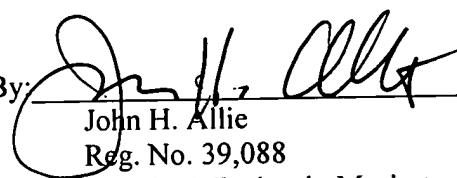
Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the references listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement. No copies of the U. S. references cited on the enclosed 1449 form are enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted with the filing of the application. It is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted item. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				<i>Complete if Known</i>			
				Application Number		New Application	
				Filing Date		January 27, 2004	
				First Named Inventor		Stephen N. Hammond et al.	
				Group Art Unit		Unknown	
				Examiner Name		Unknown	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number			
6001-1001							

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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